

Profile of English Learner Students in U.S. Public Schools During the 2020-21 School Year

2020-21 Civil Rights Data Collection

U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights

About the Civil Rights Data Collection

The Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) is a mandatory survey of all public schools and school districts in the 50 states, Washington, D.C., and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It gathers information about student access to educational programs, activities, staff, and school climate factors from public schools serving students in preschool through 12th grade. For more information about the CRDC or to download the full 2020-21 CRDC public-use data file, please visit <https://civilrightsdata.ed.gov>.

ENGLISH LEARNER* STUDENT ENROLLMENT

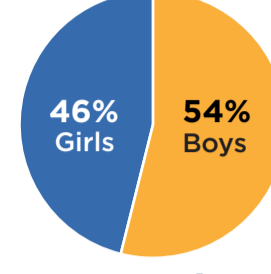
There were 5.2 million English Learner (EL) students enrolled in the nation's public schools during the 2020-21 school year. EL students accounted for **11% of total preschool through grade 12 enrollment**.

49.2
Million

Overall Student Enrollment

5.2
Million

EL Student Enrollment



EL Student Enrollment by Sex

*For a full definition of English learner students, please visit <https://civilrightsdata.ed.gov/data> and see the CRDC School Survey Form.

Enrollment Rates of EL Students and non-EL Students in Public High School Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science Courses

Nearly 1.2 million EL students were enrolled in public high schools, which represented approximately 7% of public high school student enrollment. The enrollment rates of EL public high school students in mathematics, science, and computer science courses were lower than the enrollment rates for non-EL public high school students, except for Algebra I, Geometry, and Biology.

		Enrollment Rate of English learner (EL) Students	Enrollment Rate of Non-EL Students
Mathematics	Algebra I	30%	19%
	Geometry	25%	22%
	Algebra II	18%	20%
	Advanced Mathematics	9%	18%
	Calculus	2%	7%
Science	Biology	31%	28%
	Chemistry	17%	20%
	Physics	13%	15%
Technology	Computer Science	8%	9%

ENROLLMENT OF EL STUDENTS IN ADVANCED COURSES AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

EL STUDENTS WERE ONLY

3%

of students enrolled in **Advanced Placement Courses¹**

of students enrolled in **Gifted and Talented Programs²**

of students enrolled in **Dual Enrollment or Dual Credit Programs³**

¹**Advanced Placement (AP)** refers to a program, sponsored by the College Board, through which students may earn college credit and advanced college placement by successfully completing AP courses and standardized AP exams.

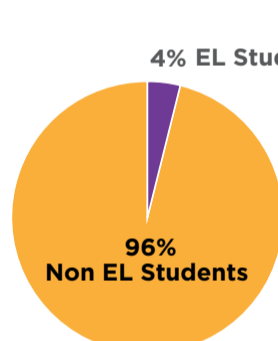
²**Gifted and Talented programs** are programs during regular school hours that provide special educational opportunities including accelerated promotion through grades and classes and an enriched curriculum for students who are endowed with a high degree of mental ability or who demonstrate unusual physical coordination, creativity, interest, or talent.

³**Dual Enrollment or Dual Credit Programs** provide opportunities for high school students to take college-level courses offered by colleges, and earn concurrent credit toward a high school diploma and college degree while still in high school.

SCHOOL CLIMATE FOR AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE OF EL STUDENTS

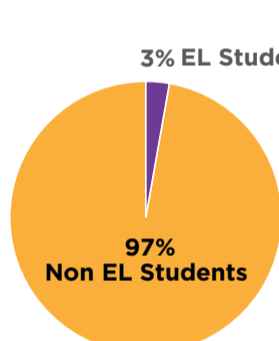
EL Students Reported as Being Harassed or Bullied

For the 2020-21 school year, EL students accounted for 4% of students reported as being harassed or bullied on the basis of race, 3% of students reported as being harassed or bullied on the basis of sex, and 2% of students reported as being harassed or bullied on the basis of disability.



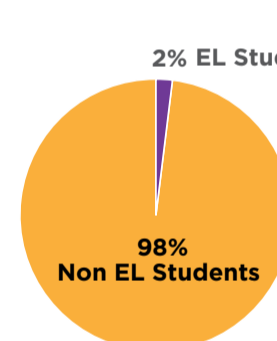
10,700
Number of Students Reported as Harassed or Bullied

On the Basis of Race



14,900
Number of Students Reported as Harassed or Bullied

On the Basis of Sex

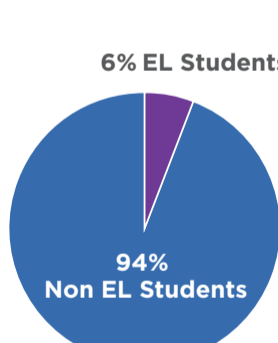


3,400
Number of Students Reported as Harassed or Bullied

On the Basis of Disability

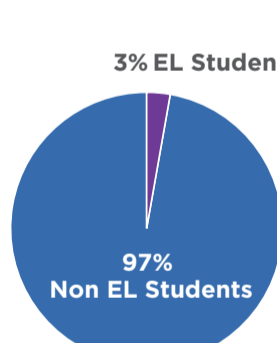
EL Students Subjected to Restraint and Seclusion

EL students accounted for 6% of students subjected to mechanical restraint, 3% of students subjected to physical restraint, and 3% of students subjected to seclusion.



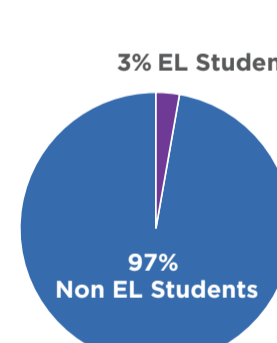
2,200
Number of Students Subjected to

Mechanical Restraint*



35,100
Number of Students Subjected to

Physical Restraint



15,700
Number of Students Subjected to

Seclusion

*Note: The number of students without disabilities subjected to mechanical restraint may include counts of students who were handcuffed by law enforcement but not arrested.

EL Students Subjected to Disciplinary Actions

For the 2020-21 school year, EL students represented 11% of preschool to grade 12 enrollment, and accounted for 7% of students who received one or more in-school suspensions, 6% of students who received one or more out-of-school suspensions, and 6% of students who were expelled.

Also, EL students accounted for 7% of students who received school-related arrests, 5% of students referred to law enforcement, and 3% of students who received corporal punishment.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2020-21 Civil Rights Data Collection, released November 2023, available at <https://civilrightsdata.ed.gov>.



The data presented in this report is from the 2020-21 CRDC privacy-protected, public-use data file, released November 2023.



The calculated counts and percentages in this report may differ from those by other offices within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) due to differences in methodology, data sources, and survey population (or universe of schools and school districts that submit data). For additional information about the differences between the CRDC and other ED data, please see, [Building Bridges: Increasing the Power of the CRDC Through Data Linking With an ID Crosswalk](#).

OCR cautions readers and data users to consider the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students and on educational conditions when comparing the 2020-21 CRDCs to CRDCs from previous years.



The percentages listed are rounded to the nearest whole number. Counts of 1,000,000 or greater are rounded to the nearest hundred thousand. Counts of 1,000 or greater are rounded to the nearest hundred. Counts of less than 1,000 are rounded to the nearest ten.



This analysis excludes schools for which OCR determined potentially erroneous data had been reported. For more information about the 2020-21 CRDC data quality efforts, review the User's Manual available at <https://civilrightsdata.ed.gov>.



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